

INDUCED TERMINATIONS OF PREGNANCY

INTRODUCTION

Purpose of Induced Termination of Pregnancy Surveillance

An *induced termination (abortion)* is the intentional interruption of a pregnancy with the objective of preventing a live birth. Abortion surveillance provides information useful in identifying population groups experiencing unintended pregnancies. Such information is valuable in targeting pregnancy prevention programs.

Source of Data: Report of Induced Termination of Pregnancy

Induced termination information presented in this report is gathered from data recorded on the *Report of Induced Termination of Pregnancy* forms, filed for abortions that occurred in Louisiana in the 2000 calendar year. All original Induced Termination forms are routed to the Vital Records Registry in New Orleans. Louisiana law requires that the attending physician report each induced termination of pregnancy that occurs in the state to the Vital Records Registry within 15 days of termination of the pregnancy.

Although some states notify Louisiana of out-of-state pregnancy terminations obtained by Louisiana residents, Louisiana cannot reciprocate. A federal court decision prohibits the collection of residency information on women who terminate pregnancies within the state. Hence, no accurate counts of the number of terminations among Louisiana residents are available. Counts used in this chapter represent terminations that occurred in Louisiana, and include out-of-state residents who obtained induced terminations in Louisiana.

INDUCED TERMINATION COUNTS

There were 11,384 induced terminations of pregnancy reported in Louisiana in 2000. This was 624 less than the 12,008 induced terminations of pregnancy reported in Louisiana in 1999. The age group

encompassing women aged 20-24 years historically is the group with the highest number of abortions. In 2000, women in this age group accounted for approximately onethird (36.3%) of all abortions.

Women aged <15 years obtained 1% of all abortions. The largest decline in the annual number of reported abortions in the 1990s has been reported among women under the age of 20 years (*Table A1*).

Table A1.

Number of Induced Terminations of Pregnancy by Age Group
Reported Occurrences in Louisiana, 1990-2000

			Age in Years											
Year	Total	Under 15	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45 & Older	Unknown				
1990	13020	150	2934	4287	2716	1670	938	267	14	44				
1991	12190	128	2562	4221	2549	1543	878	260	13	36				
1992	12468	191	2597	4288	2571	1683	838	237	15	48				
1993	12373	157	2487	4300	2543	1667	917	259	15	28				
1994	12154	169	2500	4215	2505	1517	929	257	17	45				
1995	11491	141	2333	3895	2428	1468	936	226	11	53				
1996	11884	143	2489	4083	2553	1417	876	262	16	45				
1997	11739	147	2285	4087	2650	1375	849	265	22	59				
1998	11351	120	2238	3818	2538	1386	829	262	13	147				
1999	12008	103	2234	4253	2761	1435	903	236	13	70				
2000	11384	115	2045	4133	2618	1364	800	238	7	64				
	1													

An early abortion is one that is performed at or before 8 weeks gestation. A late abortion is one that is performed at or after 16 weeks gestation. There were 5,165 early abortions reported in Louisiana, which was 45.4% of the total reported. The 954 reported late abortions comprised 8.4% of the total reported (Figure A1). Younger women (under age 20 years) were more likely to obtain late abortions than older women (over 20 years) were. (See Figure A2 and Table A3, on page 76).

Figure A1. Percents of Induced Terminations of Pregnancy by Single Weeks of Gestation at the Time of Termination Reported Occurrences in Louisiana, 2000

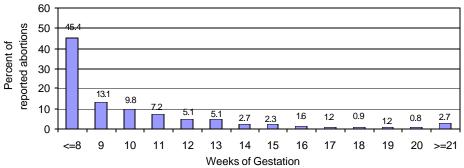
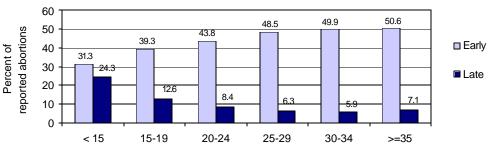


Figure A2. Percents of Women Who Obtained Early* and Late**
Abortions by Age Group
Reported Occurrences in Louisiana, 2000



Age Group in years

The suction procedure was used in 84% of reported abortions in Louisiana (Table A2).

Table A2.
Induced Terminations of Pregnancy by Weeks of Gestation and Type of Procedure
Reported Occurrences in Louisiana, 2000

Weeks of		Curet	tage		trauterine nstillation			Dilation and		
Gestation	Total	Suction	Sharp	Saline	Prostaglandin	Hysterotomy	Hysterectomy	Evacuation	Other	Unknown
All	11384	9562	****	0	0	0	****	773	17	1027
8 & Under	5165	4438	****	0	0	0	0	204	0	521
9	1496	1299	0	0	0	0	0	51	0	146
10	1120	989	****	0	0	0	0	32	0	98
11	815	703	0	0	0	0	0	42	0	70
12	581	509	0	0	0	0	0	18	0	54
13	581	527	0	0	0	0	0	11	0	43
14	302	263	0	0	0	0	****	8	****	29
15	264	248	0	0	0	0	0	***	***	14
16	178	141	0	0	0	0	0	28	****	8
17	139	59	0	0	0	0	0	65	***	12
18	102	53	0	0	0	0	0	43	****	****
19	138	58	****	0	0	0	0	72	****	****
20	86	50	0	0	0	0	0	31	****	***
21 & Over	311	151	0	0	0	0	0	153	****	5
Unknown	106	74	0	0	0	0	0	14	0	18

**** in cell indicates count is greater than 0 and less than 5

^{*}Early abortion occurs at or before 8 weeks of gestation

^{**}Late abortion occurs at or after 16 weeks of gestation

Table A3 provides summaries by weeks of gestation, race, age group, and marital status by induced terminations reported in Louisiana in 2000.

Table A3.

Number of Induced Terminations of Pregnancy
by Weeks of Gestation, Age, Race, and Marital Status,
Reported Occurrences in Louisiana, 2000

						F		Marital Status						
Weeks of			Under	15-	20-	25-	30-	35-	40-	45 &				
Gestation	Race	Total	15	19	24	29	34	39	44	Older	Unk.	Married	Unmarried	Unknown
ALL	ALL	11384	115	2045	4133	2618	1364	800	238	7	64	701	3961	6722
	W	4514	28	878	1525	960	577	398	121	****	23	385	1728	2401
	NW	6109	85	1024	2346	1500	678	339	101	****	33	232	1752	4125
	UNK	761	****	143	262	158	109	63	16	0	8	84	481	196
8 & UNDER	ALL	5165	36	803	1810	1271	681	393	133	****	35	337	1647	3181
	W	2223	13	385	731	506	288	209	75	****	14	186	791	1246
	NW	2602	22	372	985	678	331	145	50	****	18	107	660	183
	UNK	340	****	46	94	87	62	39	8	0	****	44	196	100
9	ALL	1496	13	252	546	352	199	99	26	****	8	99	617	780
	W	596	5	125	201	124	73	50	14	****	****	58	269	269
	NW	782	7	102	296	206	114	43	10	0	****	31	268	483
	UNK	118	****	25	49	22	12	6	****	0	****	10	80	28
10	ALL	1120	7	190	419	271	118	88	23	0	****	85	450	58
	W	413	****	82	133	83	54	53	6	0	****	38	174	20
	NW	641	6	93	260	175	59	32	13	0	****	38	237	366
	UNK	66	0	15	26	13	5	****	****	0	0	9	39	18
11	ALL	815	7	147	320	192	83	51	12	****	****	40	277	498
	W	289	****	53	113	64	31	19	5	0	****	22	107	160
	NW	469	5	79	187	116	45	29	7	****	0	14	129	320
	UNK	57	0	15	20	12	7	****	0	0	0	***	41	1:
12	ALL	581	6	143	194	125	59	36	13	0	5	34	240	307
	W	216	****	57	64	43	30	14	****	0	****	17	95	104
	NW	324	****	78	115	74	23	20	7	0	****	12	115	19
	UNK	41	0	8	15	8	6	****	****	0	0	5	30	(
13	ALL	581	9	109	219	121	73	37	11	****	****	18	135	428
	W	182	****	39	62	38	30	9	****	0	0	9	55	118
	NW	363	8	60	139	82	37	27	8	****	****	7	51	30
	UNK	36	0	10	18	****	6	****	0	0	0	***	29	:
14	ALL	302	****	60	123	58	38	17	***	0	****	18	95	189
	W	108	0	24	43	20	13	5	****	0	****	9	35	6-
	NW	172	****	31	74	33	23	8	****	0	0	7	44	12
	UNK	22	0	5	6	5	****	****	0	0	0	****	16	***

Table A3. **Number of Induced Terminations of Pregnancy** by Weeks of Gestation, Age, Race, and Marital Status, Reported Occurrences in Louisiana, 2000

			Age									Marital Status			
Weeks of			Under	15-	20-	25-	30-	35-	40-	45 &					
Gestation	Race	Total	15	19	24	29	34	39	44	Older	Unk.	Married	Unmarried	Unknown	
15	ALL	264	7	64	107	43	24	16	****	0	****	****	74	187	
	W	89	****	22	30	13	14	8	****	0	0	****	30	57	
	NW	161	6	37	70	30	9	7	****	0	****	****	34	126	
	UNK	14	0	5	7	0	****	****	0	0	0	0	10	***	
16	ALL	178	****	45	65	41	18	5	-	-	-	8	62	108	
	W	67	-	8	30	21	7	****	-	-	-	****	30	33	
	NW	97	****	34	26	20	10	****	-	-	-	****	21	73	
	UNK	14	-	****	9	-	****	****	-	-	-	***	11	***	
17	ALL	139	****	34	50	28	9	13	****	0	0	11	45	83	
	W	52	****	15	15	9	5	****	****	0	0	7	15	30	
	NW	82	****	19	33	17	****	8	0	0	0	****	27	53	
	UNK	5	0	0	****	****	0	****	0	0	0	***	***	C	
18	ALL	102	8	25	37	14	10	6	****	0	0	9	45	48	
	W	39	0	11	16	****	****	****	****	0	0	7	19	13	
	NW	58	8	13	20	9	5	****	0	0	0	****	23	34	
	UNK	5	0	****	****	****	****	0	0	0	0	***	****	***	
19	ALL	138	****	34	46	21	17	14	5	0	0	15	43	80	
	W	53	0	11	12	7	11	8	****	0	0	10	17	26	
	NW	79	****	23	32	12	5	5	****	0	0	****	25	52	
	UNK	6	0	0	****	****	****	****	0	0	0	***	***	****	
20	ALL	86	****	30	33	10	6	5	0	0	0	****	47	36	
	W	34	0	9	15	****	****	****	0	0	0	****	19	12	
	NW	47	****	19	15	7	****	****	0	0	0	0	24	23	
	UNK	5	0	****	****	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	****	***	
21 & OVER	ALL	311	10	89	118	51	20	15	6	****	***	14	133	164	
	W	116	****	31	46	18	8	8	****	****	0	8	53	55	
	NW	173	9	51	66	29	8	6	****	0	****	5	65	103	
	UNK	22	0	7	6	****	****	****	0	0	0	***	15	6	
UNKNOWN	ALL	106	0	20	46	20	9	5	0	0	6	7	51	48	
	W	37	0	6	14	7	6	****	0	0	0	5	19	13	
	NW	59	0	13	28	12	****	****	0	0	****	****	29	28	
	UNK	10	0	****	****	****	0	0	0	0	****	0	***	7	

W=White NW=Non-white UNK=Unknown
**** in cell indicates count is greater than 0 and less than 5.